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Practitioner's Docket No.: 967\_029

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Toshiro Nishio and Yutaka Nio

RECEIVED

Ser. No.: 10/088,468

Art Unit: Not Assigned

JUL 31 2002

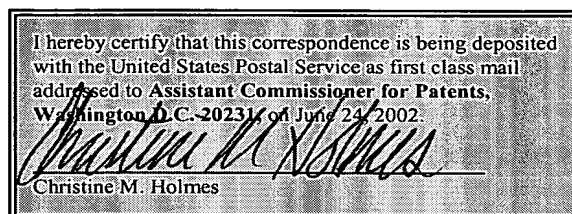
Filed: March 19, 2002

Examiner: Not Assigned

Technology Center 2600

For: SIGNAL TRANSMISSION SYSTEM

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231



**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of each of the references listed on Form PTO-1449 are attached.

Also enclosed is a copy of a Japanese Search Report bearing a mailing date of October 23, 2001, and the U.S. PTO is directed thereto for a concise statement of possible relevance of the references cited therein.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 C.F.R. §1.104(a) and §1.105 concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that these references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office

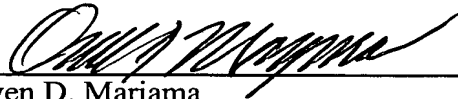
Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R.

§1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0289.

Respectfully submitted,

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June 24, 2002

Date

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20874

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

**EXAMINER:** Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.